Application No.: 10/673,043

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed November 14, 2005. By this Response to Office Action, claims 1-4 are amended and new claims 11-26 are added. Claims 5-10 were previously withdrawn. Twenty claims are pending in this application, of which three are in independent form (claims 1, 11, and 24). It is noted that Applicant has made the above-identified modifications to the claims solely to advance prosecution of the instant application and to obtain allowance on allowable claims at the earliest possible date. Accordingly, no admission may be inferred from the amendments of claims herein. Applicant expressly reserves the right to pursue the originally filed claims in the future. Additionally, Applicant submits that the amendments made herein introduce no new matter.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims pending in this application are patentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,773,049 to Kashiwa et al. ("Kashiwa"). Amended independent claim 1 recites that "the entire injection mold tooling assembly comprises a single unit that is removable from the fixed and movable platens." Likewise, new independent claims 11 and 24 recite that "the entire injection mold tooling assembly comprises a single unit that is removably attachable to the injection molding machine." In other words, the injection mold tooling assembly can be added to a standard injection molding machine to create a special use machine with all of the unique functionality set forth in the present application's specification. Kashiwa, on the other hand, discloses no such tooling assembly. Rather, it discloses a foam injection molding machine comprised of countless interdependent parts. The functionality for which Kashiwa was cited is performed by the machine itself and not by a separate tooling assembly that can be added to a standard machine. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 11, and 24, and their dependent claims, are novel over Kashiwa. Moreover, because of the substantial advantages provided by the inventions recited in the pending claims, Applicant

Application No.: 10/673,043

respectfully submits that the pending claims are also nonobvious over Kashiwa. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw this rejection and allow the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present rejections should be withdrawn, and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. For any fees that are deemed necessary following submittal of this Response to Office Action, the undersigned hereby authorizes such fees to be charged to our deposit account, Deposit Account No. 061910. Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: February 27, 2006

Thomas R. Hipkins Reg. No. 57,659 Customer No. 022859 FREDRIKSON & BYRON, P.A. 200 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Telephone: (612) 492-7000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

2/27/

Date of Deposit

#3224661\1